

**REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE**

**MR. PRESIDENT AND MR. SPEAKER:**

We, the undersigned conferees, have had under consideration the amendments to the following entitled BILL:

S. B. No. 3056: Appropriation; Development Authority, Mississippi.

We, therefore, respectfully submit the following report and recommendation:

- 1. That the House recede from its Amendment No. 1.
- 2. That the Senate and House adopt the following amendment:

Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

4           **SECTION 1.** The following sum of money, or so much thereof as  
5 may be necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the  
6 State General Fund not otherwise appropriated, to defray the  
7 expenses of the Mississippi Development Authority for the fiscal  
8 year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.....  
9 .....\$       21,420,879.00.

10           **SECTION 2.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
11 necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State  
12 Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi Development Authority or  
13 the appropriate special fund for the purpose of defraying the  
14 expenses incurred in the operation of the various divisions of the  
15 authority for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending  
16 June 30, 2025.....\$       374,213,496.00.



17           **SECTION 3.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
18 this act, the following positions are authorized:

19           AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

20           Permanent:                   158

21           Time-Limited:                39

22           With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's  
23 responsibility to make certain that funds required for Personal  
24 Services for Fiscal Year 2026 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2025 funds  
25 appropriated for that purpose unless programs or positions are  
26 added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2025 budget by the Mississippi  
27 Legislature. The Legislature shall determine the agency's  
28 personal services appropriation, which the State Personnel Board  
29 shall publish. The agency's personal services appropriation may  
30 consist of restricted funds for approved vacancies for Fiscal Year  
31 2025 that may be utilized to fill vacant Fiscal Year 2024  
32 headcount. It shall be the agency's responsibility to ensure that  
33 the funds provided for vacancies are used to increase headcount  
34 and not for promotions, title changes, in-range salary adjustments  
35 or any other mechanism for increasing salaries for current  
36 employees. It is the Legislature's intention that no employee  
37 salary falls below the minimum salary established by the  
38 Mississippi State Personnel Board.

39           Additionally, the State Personnel Board shall determine and  
40 publish the projected annualized payroll costs based on current  
41 employees. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to



42 ensure that actual personnel expenditures for Fiscal Year 2025 do  
43 not exceed the data provided by the Legislative Budget Office. If  
44 the agency's Fiscal Year 2025 projected cost exceeds the  
45 annualized costs, no salary actions shall be processed by the  
46 State Personnel Board except for new hires determined to be  
47 essential for the agency.

48 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with  
49 the terms, conditions, and procedures established by law or  
50 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State  
51 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written  
52 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The  
53 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written  
54 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions  
55 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the  
56 appropriated level.

57 No general funds authorized to be expended herein shall be  
58 used to replace federal funds and/or other special funds used for  
59 salaries authorized under the provisions of this act and which are  
60 withdrawn and no longer available.

61 None of the funds herein appropriated shall be used in  
62 violation of the Internal Revenue Service's Publication 15-A  
63 relating to the reporting of income paid to contract employees, as  
64 interpreted by the Office of the State Auditor.

65 **SECTION 4.** In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance  
66 Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of



67 the Legislature that the funds provided herein shall be utilized  
 68 in the most efficient and effective manner possible to achieve the  
 69 intended mission of this agency. Based on the funding authorized,  
 70 this agency shall make every effort to attain the targeted  
 71 performance measures provided below:

	FY2025
<u>Performance Measures</u>	<u>Target</u>
Economic Dev & Incentives	
Number of National Recruitment Contacts	1,000
Number of International Investment Contracts	1,800
Number of International Trade Contacts	1,000
Number of Qualified National Prospects	225
Return on Investment	10.00
Number of New Businesses - Global Contacts	15
Number of New Jobs from Global Contacts	3,000
Number of Minority and Small Business	
Contacts	8,000
Number of Minority Business	
Certification Applications Processed	170
Technical Assistance to Disadvantaged	
Contacts	2,300
State Contracting with Minority Business	55,000,000
Number of Interactions with Interested	
Businesses	3,000
Number of Qualified Contacts	750



92	Number of Expansions	30
93	Number of Jobs Created from Expansions	3,000
94	Number of Energy Efficiency and	
95	Renewable Energy Direct Contacts	10,000
96	Community Dev & Incentives	
97	Number of Requests for Financing or	
98	Incentives	225
99	Awarded Grants and Loans for Community	
100	and Economic Development	50,000,000
101	Number of Grants and Loans Awarded	100
102	Support Services Program	
103	Administration as a Percent of Total Budget	9.50
104	Tourism (visit Ms)	
105	Number of Tourist Inquiries Generated	38,638
106	Number of Visitors per Year	26,000,000
107	Travel Revenue (\$ in Billions)	7.00
108	Number of Tourists Registered	2,706,927

109 A reporting of the degree to which the performance targets  
110 set above have been or are being achieved shall be provided in the  
111 agency's budget request submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget  
112 Committee for Fiscal Year 2026.

113 **SECTION 5.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 of this  
114 act, the amount of Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$800,000.00)  
115 shall be provided from the Mississippi Department of



116 Transportation to defray the expenses of the Mississippi  
117 Development Authority in operating the state welcome centers.

118         **SECTION 6.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
119 Mississippi Development Authority shall maintain complete  
120 accounting and personnel records related to the expenditure of all  
121 funds appropriated under this act and that such records shall be  
122 in the same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal  
123 Year 2024. It is further the intention of the Legislature that  
124 the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2026 shall be  
125 submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format  
126 and level of detail comparable to the format and level of detail  
127 provided during the Fiscal Year 2025 budget request process.

128         **SECTION 7.** Of the funds appropriated in Sections 1 and 2 of  
129 this act, the amount of Four Million Eight Hundred Seventy-six  
130 Thousand Two Hundred Ninety-eight Dollars (\$4,876,298.00), or so  
131 much thereof as may be necessary, is provided for the purpose of  
132 supporting Mississippi Tourism Advertising and Promotion for  
133 Fiscal Year 2025, and shall not be expended for any type of  
134 cultural exchange program. Of the funds appropriated herein and  
135 allocated within this section, Two Hundred Ninety-nine Thousand  
136 Dollars (\$299,000.00) is provided for Tourism Grant Development  
137 Awards.

138         **SECTION 8.** It is the intention of the Legislature that none  
139 of the funds appropriated above shall be expended unless members  
140 of the Mississippi House of Representatives and Mississippi Senate



141 are notified at least five (5) days prior to a public ceremony  
142 announcing the award of any grant in their district or any public  
143 announcement or ceremony regarding the groundbreaking or opening  
144 of a facility, roadway or bridge for which the Legislature has  
145 made funds available. Any signage regarding any public event or  
146 any new facility, roadway or bridge shall include the following  
147 language: "Funds were made available for this project by the  
148 Mississippi State Legislature."

149       **SECTION 9.** It is the intention of the Legislature that  
150 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the  
151 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things  
152 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,  
153 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind  
154 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to  
155 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are  
156 made without competitive bids.

157       **SECTION 10.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this  
158 act, One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) is provided for  
159 the Mississippi Delta National Heritage Areas.

160       **SECTION 11.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this  
161 act, One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) is provided for  
162 the Mississippi Hills National Heritage Area.

163       **SECTION 12.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
164 Mississippi Development Authority is hereby authorized to  
165 escalate, budget, and expend funds from any source not to exceed



166 Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00) in accordance with rules and  
167 regulations of the Department of Finance and Administration in a  
168 manner consistent with the escalation of federal funds.

169 **SECTION 13.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
170 Mississippi Development Authority shall submit a notification of  
171 any General Fund Transfers out of the major category Subsidies  
172 into any other major categories to the Legislative Budget Office.

173 **SECTION 14.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this  
174 act, Twenty Thousand Twenty-five Dollars (\$20,025.00) shall be  
175 provided for the support of the Mississippi River Parkway  
176 Commission.

177 **SECTION 15.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this  
178 act, One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) shall be transferred to  
179 Innovate Mississippi.

180 **SECTION 16.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this  
181 act, One Hundred Fifty-six Thousand Dollars (\$156,000.00) is  
182 provided for the Energy High School Academy, established in  
183 Section 37-69-7, Mississippi Code of 1972.

184 **SECTION 17.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this  
185 act, it is the intention of the Legislature that Fifty Thousand  
186 Dollars (\$50,000.00) shall be allocated to the Mississippi Book  
187 Festival.

188 **SECTION 18.** Of the funds appropriated herein, Five Hundred  
189 Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) shall be provided to the





190 Mississippi Main Street Association for statewide support and  
191 operations.

192       **SECTION 19.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
193 Mississippi Development Authority shall provide quarterly reports  
194 on the status of Gulf Coast Restoration Fund projects to the  
195 Legislative Budget Office and the Department of Finance and  
196 Administration. It is further the intention of the Legislature  
197 that the Mississippi Development Authority shall provide the Joint  
198 Legislative Budget Committee a detailed report and other such  
199 related information on each project's expenditures with the  
200 subsequent fiscal year's budget submission.

201       **SECTION 20.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
202 necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Gulf Coast  
203 Restoration Fund not otherwise appropriated to the Mississippi  
204 Development Authority for the purpose of reauthorizing the  
205 expenditure of Gulf Coast Restoration Fund, as provided in Senate  
206 Bill No. 3046, 2023 Regular Session, for the fiscal year beginning  
207 July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.....\$     744,784.00.

208       These funds are provided for administrative expenses at the  
209 Mississippi Development Authority as outlined in Section 57-119-7,  
210 Mississippi Code of 1972.

211       Notwithstanding the amount reappropriated under this section,  
212 the amount that may be expended under the authority of this  
213 section shall not exceed the unexpended balance of the funds  
214 remaining as of June 30, 2024, from the amount authorized for the



215 previous fiscal year. In addition, this reappropriation shall not  
216 change the purpose for which the funds were originally authorized.

217 **SECTION 21.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
218 necessary, is reappropriated out of any money in the Capital  
219 Expense Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the Mississippi  
220 Development Authority for the purpose of reauthorizing the  
221 expenditure of Capital Expense Funds for the Air Service  
222 Development Act, as authorized in Senate Bill No. 3046, 2023  
223 Regular Session, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and  
224 ending June 30, 2025.....\$ 246,431.00.

225 Notwithstanding the amount reappropriated under this section,  
226 the amount that may be expended under the authority of this  
227 section shall not exceed the unexpended balance of the funds  
228 remaining as of June 30, 2024, from the amount authorized for the  
229 previous fiscal year. In addition, this reappropriation shall not  
230 change the purpose for which the funds were originally authorized.

231 **SECTION 22.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
232 Mississippi Development Authority may provide operational support  
233 to any park operated by the United States National Park Service in  
234 Mississippi during the event of a government shutdown that  
235 materially affects the operations of such park.

236 **SECTION 23.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 of this  
237 act, the following sums, or so much thereof as may be necessary is  
238 appropriated out of the following funds in the State Treasury to  
239 the credit of the Mississippi Development Authority for the



240 purpose of Mississippi Major Economic Impact Projects for the  
241 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025:

242 (a) Triple Crown Fund for the purposes described in Section  
243 57-1-651, Mississippi Code of 1972.....\$ 81,105,000.00.

244 (b) Project Poppy Fund for the purposes described in Senate  
245 Bill No. 2001, 2024 First Extraordinary  
246 Session.....\$ 117,614,000.00.

247 (c) Project Atlas Fund for the purposes described in House  
248 Bill No. 1, 2024 Second Extraordinary Session...\$ 44,000,000.00.

249 It is the intention of the Legislature that the Mississippi  
250 Development Authority provide the reporting requirements of each  
251 fund appropriated in this section on or before January 5 of each  
252 year.

253 **SECTION 24.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 2, Three  
254 Hundred Fifty-six Thousand Dollars (\$356,000.00), or so much  
255 thereof as may be necessary, shall be derived out of any money in  
256 the State Treasury to the credit of the Project Poppy Fund, as  
257 created in Senate Bill 2001, 1st Extraordinary Session of 2024,  
258 and allocated in a manner as determined by the Treasurer's Office  
259 and One Million Six-Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,600,000.00), or  
260 so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be derived out of any  
261 money in the State Treasury to the credit of the Project Atlas  
262 Fund, as created in House Bill 1, 2nd Extraordinary Session of  
263 2024, and allocated in a manner as determined by the Treasurer's



264 Office. These funds are provided for expediting services needed  
265 for Project Poppy and Project Atlas.

266 **SECTION 25.** In addition to all other funds appropriated  
267 herein, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary,  
268 is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State General Fund  
269 not otherwise appropriated, to the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway  
270 Development Authority for the purposes enumerated in Section  
271 51-27-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, for the fiscal year beginning  
272 July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.....\$ 250,635.00.

273 **SECTION 26.** In addition to all other funds appropriated  
274 herein, the following sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary,  
275 is hereby authorized for expenditure out of any special source  
276 funds which are collected by or otherwise become available for the  
277 purpose of defraying the expenses of the Tennessee-Tombigbee  
278 Waterway Development Authority for the fiscal year beginning  
279 July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.....\$ 342,819.00.

280 **SECTION 27.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions  
281 of Sections 24 and 25 of this act, the following positions are  
282 authorized:

283 AUTHORIZED HEADCOUNT:

284 Permanent: 3

285 Time-Limited: 0

286 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with  
287 the terms, conditions and procedures established by law.



288 No general funds authorized to be expended herein shall be  
289 used to replace federal funds and/or other special funds which are  
290 being used for salaries authorized under the provisions of this  
291 act and which are withdrawn and no longer available.

292 **SECTION 28.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions  
293 of Section 2, Fifty Thousand (\$50,000.00), or so much thereof,  
294 shall be derived out of any money in the State Treasury to the  
295 credit of the Capital Expense Fund, as created in Section  
296 27-103-303, Mississippi Code of 1972, and allocated in a manner as  
297 determined by the Treasurer's Office. This appropriation is made  
298 for the purpose of providing funds for the support of the  
299 Mississippi Book Festival.

300 **SECTION 29.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions  
301 of Section 2, Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000.00), or so  
302 much thereof, shall be derived out of any money in the State  
303 Treasury to the credit of the Capital Expense Fund, as created in  
304 Section 27-103-303, Mississippi Code of 1972, and allocated in a  
305 manner as determined by the Treasurer's Office. This  
306 appropriation is made for the purpose of providing funds for the  
307 support of the Sanderson Farms Championship.

308 **SECTION 30.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions  
309 of Section 2, One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00), or so much  
310 thereof, shall be derived out of any money in the State Treasury  
311 to the credit of the Capital Expense Fund, as created in Section  
312 27-103-303, Mississippi Code of 1972, and allocated in a manner as



313 determined by the Treasurer's Office. This appropriation is made  
314 for the purpose of providing funds for the support of the  
315 Mississippi Museum of Art.

316         **SECTION 31.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions  
317 of Section 2, Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00), or so  
318 much thereof, shall be derived out of any money in the State  
319 Treasury to the credit of the Capital Expense Fund, as created in  
320 Section 27-103-303, Mississippi Code of 1972, and allocated in a  
321 manner as determined by the Treasurer's Office. This  
322 appropriation is made for the purpose of providing funds for the  
323 support of the Mississippi Tourism Association.

324         **SECTION 32.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions  
325 of Section 2, Forty Million Dollars (\$40,000,000.00), or so much  
326 thereof, shall be derived out of any money in the State Treasury  
327 to the credit of the Mississippi Site Development Grant Fund, as  
328 created in Section 57-1-701, Mississippi Code of 1972, and  
329 allocated in a manner as determined by the Treasurer's Office.  
330 These funds are provided to defray expenses for Mississippi Site  
331 Development Grants.

332         **SECTION 33.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions  
333 of Section 2, Six Million Nine Hundred Seventy-two Dollars  
334 (\$6,972,000.00), or so much thereof, shall be derived out of any  
335 money in the State Treasury to the credit of the Mississippi Main  
336 Street Revitalization Grant Program Fund and allocated in a manner  
337 as determined by the Treasurer's Office. These funds are provided



338 for Mississippi Main Street Revitalization Grants pursuant to  
339 Section 57-78-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended by Senate  
340 Bill 2696, Regular Session 2024. The Mississippi Development  
341 Authority shall provide the funds to approved grantees in the  
342 letter of award recipients from the Mississippi Main Street  
343 Association to the Legislature dated November 21, 2023.

344 **SECTION 34.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by  
345 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the  
346 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon  
347 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal  
348 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the  
349 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

350 **SECTION 35.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
351 and after July 1, 2024.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and  
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO DEFRAY THE EXPENSES OF THE  
2 MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025.

CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE

X (SIGNED)  
Hopson

X (SIGNED)  
Polk

X (SIGNED)  
Blackwell

CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE

X (SIGNED)  
Oliver

X (SIGNED)  
Read

X (SIGNED)  
Massengill

